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COMPANY: USPTO	DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 04, 2005
FAX NUMBER: 703.872.9306	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 43
PHONE NUMBER: 703.308.4357	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: H0005036-3002
RE: Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement	RECIPIENTS REFERENCE NUMBER: 10/621,168

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FOR REVIEW

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

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PTO/SB/21 (08-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/621,168	
	Filing Date	July 15, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Chien-Wel Li	
	Art Unit	1755	
	Examiner Name	Karl E. Group	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	42	Attorney Docket Number	H0005036-3002


ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO/SB/08A Including 3 references, PCT International Search Report, and PCT Written Opinion.
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Ingrassia Fisher & Lorenz, PC		
Signature			
Printed name	David K. Benson		
Date	JAN 4, 2005	Reg. No.	42,314

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Signature			
Typed or printed name	David K. Benson	Date	JAN 4, 2005

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 04 2005

In Re Application of: Chien-Wei LI Group Art Unit: 1755
Serial No.: 10/621,168 Examiner: Karl E. Group
Filed: July 15, 2003 Atty Docket No.: H0005036-3002
For: SINTERED SILICON NITRIDE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (703) 872-9306.

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In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in a manner prescribed by 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being submitted herewith for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

I. **CONTENT**

This IDS includes:

- ☒ A list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office on PTO/SB/08A Form, which is included herewith;
- ☒ If required, a legible copy of: (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be

listed including any claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, unless subsequently provided in this IDS.

II. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

- ☒ Except as may be subsequently indicated in this section II, a concise explanation is not required as all of the patents, publications, applications or other information are in the English language, or the degree of relevance of each is indicated in the English language version of the International Search Report, which accompanies this IDS.
- ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 1.56(a) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of all patents, publications, applications or other information listed that is not in the English language.
- ☐ A copy of the translation of a non-English Language document, or portion thereof is enclosed with this IDS (e.g., a translation of an abstract).
- ☐ Any patent, publication, pending application or other information that is listed on PTO/SB/08A Form, which are not enclosed herewith were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in one of the following applications that has been relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C 120 and the IDS submitted in the earlier application complies with paragraphs (a) through (c) of 1.98:

U.S. Application Serial No.	U.S. Filing Date

III. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b): (check one box)

- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d).
- ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) and see the statement under 1.97(e) or charge deposit account 50-2091 the fee specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) if such statement is not selected in Section VI.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 1.114.

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c):

- ☒ After the period specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) and before the mailing date of any of a final action under 1.113, a notice of allowance under 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and accompanied by:
- ☒ a statement specified in 1.97(e) as subsequently provided in this IDS;
or
- ☐ the fee set forth in 1.17(p).

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d):

- ☐ After the period specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) and on or before the payment of the issue fee, and it is accompanied by a statement specified in 1.97(e) as subsequently provided in this IDS and the fee set forth in 1.17(p).

VI. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that:

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.
- ☐ No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

- ☒ The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed for fees due with respect to this IDS.
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IX. CONCLUSION

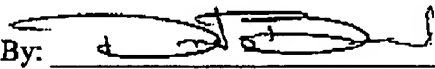
It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file patently distinguish the present invention from each of these references cited in this IDS. The references cited in this IDS are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in a combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore the filing of this IDS should not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in this IDS is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 1.56(b). In addition, the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning these IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number associated with Customer No. 29,906. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule, with a petition if necessary, and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2091.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment related to this IDS to Deposit Account No. 50-2091.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: JAN 4, 2005

By: 
David K. Benson
Reg. No. 42,314

Ingrassia Fisher & Lorenz
Customer Number 29906

Enclosures: ☒ PTO/SB/08A
☒ References
☒ Foreign Search Report
☐ Fee
☒ Other: PCT Written Opinion

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	10/821,198	
Sheet		1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	H0005036-3002

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-4,234,343	11/18/1980	Andersson	
		US-4,401,788	08/30/1983	Morgan	
		US-6,219,600	08/15/1993	Yoshida et al.	
		US-5,523,267	08/04/1996	Tanaka et al.	
		US-5,804,523	09/08/1998	Oda et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ² - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		PCT International Search Report PCT/US2004/022864	12/06/2004			
		PCT Written Opinion	12/06/2004			
		JP 2000 247748 A	08/12/2000			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				T ²
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
		GIUSEPPE PEZZOTTI and HANS-JOACHIM KLEBE, Effect of Residual Microstresses at Crystalline Multigrain Junctions on the Toughness of Silicon Nitride, Journal of the European Ceramic Society, Elsevier Science Publishers, Barking, Essex, GB, vol. 19, no. 4, April 1999, pp. 451-455.		
		HEON-JIN CHOI, JUNE-GUNN LEE and YOUNG-WOOK KIM, High Temperature Strength and Oxidation Behaviour of Hot-Pressed Silicon Nitride-Disilicate Ceramics, Journal of Materials Science, Chapman and Hall Ltd., London, GB, vol. 32, no. 7, April 1997, pp. 1937-1942.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered		

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